

NEWS MEDIA CONTACT: RELEASE (202) 586-4940 FOR IMMEDIATE

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Obama Administration Announces Additional \$12,019,800 for Local Energy Efficiency Improvements in Wyoming

Block Grants to Support Jobs, Cut Energy Bills, and Increase Energy Independence

WASHINGTON – Vice President Joe Biden and Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced plans to invest \$3.2 billion in energy efficiency and conservation projects in U.S. cities, counties, states, territories, and Native American tribes. This includes \$12,019,800 for state, county and city efforts in Wyoming. A detailed breakdown is below.

Today's announcement builds on an investment of \$35,180,261 in Wyoming weatherization and energy funding announced by the Administration on March 12th and detailed at energy.gov/recovery.

"These investments will save taxpayer dollars and create jobs in communities around the country," said Vice President Biden. "Local leaders will have the flexibility in how they put these resources to work – but we will hold them accountable for making the investments quickly and wisely to spur the local economy and cut energy use."

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program, funded by President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will provide formula grants for projects that reduce total energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency.

The funding will support energy audits and energy efficiency retrofits in residential and commercial buildings, the development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections, and the creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements. Other activities eligible for use of grant funds include transportation programs that conserve energy, projects to

reduce and capture methane and other greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, renewable energy installations on government buildings, energy efficient traffic signals and street lights, deployment of Combined Heat and Power and district heating and cooling systems, and others.

To ensure accountability, the Department of Energy will provide guidance to and require grant recipients to report on the number of jobs created or retained, energy saved, renewable energy capacity installed, greenhouse gas emissions reduced, and funds leveraged. Funding is based on a formula that accounts for population and energy use.

"The Block Grants are a major investment in energy solutions that will strengthen America's economy and create jobs at the local level," said Secretary Chu. "The funding will be used for the cheapest, cleanest and most reliable energy technologies we have – energy efficiency and conservation – which can be deployed immediately. The grants also empower local communities to make strategic investments to meet the nation's long term clean energy and climate goals."

Funding for state, city, and county governments in the state includes:

WY	Wyoming Total Sum City, County, and SEO Allocations	All	\$12,019,800
WY	Wyoming	State Energy Office	\$9,593,500
WY	Casper	City	\$503,600
WY	Cheyenne	City	\$547,800
WY	Evanston	City	\$50,000
WY	Gillette	City	\$107,800
WY	Green River	City	\$50,000
WY	Jackson	City	\$50,000
WY	Laramie	City	\$117,500
WY	Riverton	City	\$50,000
WY	Rock Springs	City	\$83,200
WY	Sheridan	City	\$72,400
WY	Campbell	County	\$68,300
WY	Carbon	County	\$66,500
WY	Converse	County	\$54,000
WY	Fremont	County	\$115,000
WY	Goshen	County	\$50,200
WY	Laramie	County	\$124,200
WY	Lincoln	County	\$68,100
WY	Natrona	County	\$81,700
WY	Park	County	\$116,000
WY	Sheridan	County	\$50,000

In addition, today's announcement includes funding for the following Tribal governments in the state:

	Name	Allocation
WY	Arapahoe Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, Wyoming	\$182,900
WY	Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, Wyoming	\$106,100

(NOTE: If a Tribal government spans more than one state, the number above reflects the allocation for the Tribal government as a whole.)

More information on the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program is available on http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block_grants.cfm.

###